

LOYOLA OF MONTREAL

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HOME OF THE WARRIORS

DEPARTMENT OF PHYSICAL EDUCATION AND ATHLETICS

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LOYOLA HOCKEY

Loyola College Warriors, honed to peak sharpness by a rigid exhibition schedule over the Christmas and New Year's holiday break, are once again ready to settle down to serious business.

The Warriors, who met such highly-touted opponents as Toronto Varsity, Boston University, Brown University and Boston College and acquitted themselves reasonably well, now will go about the task of finishing out the regular Ottawa-St. Lawrence Conference season in hopes of preserving their hold on first place.

The Warriors have won eight of their nine league games so far, but Coach Dave Draper isn't taking any chances. He is hoping to win all seven of Loyola's remaining contests, starting with two home games this weekend against Royal Military College Friday at 8:30 p.m. and against Bishop's Saturday at 2 p.m.

"Sure we're ahead, but we can't let up for a minute," Draper said this week. "We can't take anybody lightly, there are four or five very strong teams in our league. We have a long ways to go yet. We're in first place, so everybody will be gunning for us. If we win the seven games we've got left, we won't have to worry about anyone else helping us. All it takes is hard work."

The Warriors, who led runner-up Sir George Williams University by four points in the standings, will be minus three front-line players for the return to OSL action against RMC and Bishop's.

Defenceman Mike Lecour is still hospitalized with a concussion and is out indefinitely. Denny Maloney is a questionmark due to a bad knee, and Chris Hayes has succumbed to exam pressures but is expected back in a couple of weeks time.

Draper's chief dilemma for the weekend double seems to be his goaltender choice. The Loyola mentor has been blessed with two outstanding puckstoppers in Brian Hughes and Andy Molino, and both boys are expected to see plenty of action from here on in.

With Sherbrooke firmly entrenched in third spot, Bishop's (3-2-1) and RMC (2-4) will be fighting for their playoff lives this weekend. The two teams are involved in a torrid battle with Carleton for the fourth and final playoff berth.

Following these two weekend tests, Loyola will meet the Montreal NHL Oldtimers Monday at home at 8 p.m. The game will be highlighted by the first on-ice meeting of the Oldtimers' Gerry Heffernan and son Danny Heffernan, who plays for the Warriors. Also, former Loyola varsity coach Floyd Curry will be in the lineup for the Oldtimers.

LOYOLA BASKETBALL

BASKETBALL WARRIORS SEEK NINTH CONSECUTIVE VICTORY

Loyola College Warriors, fresh from their 97-82 victory over MacDonald Clansmen Tuesday night try to stretch their unbeaten string in OSL play to nine games Friday night.

Doug Daigneault's Basketball Warriors clash with an improved Royal Military squad at 6:30 in the Loyola gym.

"It's a long way yet to that championship," says Daigneault. "We got a tough game from MacDonald the other night and the going will get tougher as the season progresses."

RMC, winless before the Christmas break started the New Year on the right foot with an easy 74-59 victory over University of Ottawa.

Loyola has all key games scheduled in their quest for the OSL title. Besides RMC, they have contests with Bishop's, Carleton, Sir George Williams and Sherbrooke - all contending clubs, within the next six weeks.

Although his squad has been winning Daigneault is worried. "As individuals we can be beaten but if we continue to improve in the area of team play - move our offense with short quick passes and play defense as a cohesive unit we will be hard to defeat in our stretch drive," says Daigneault.